Government have liberalised Industrial Trade and Fiscal policies to enable indigenous industry to improve product quality and competitiveness through measures like upgradation of technology and import of better quality raw materials.

Manganese Ore (India) Ltd.

2129. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA :
DR. SHRIKANT RAM CHANDRA JICHKAR : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Manganese Ore (India) Ltd. is running in loss for the last three years if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether the Manganese Ore India Ltd. would be privatised in the near future, and if so, by when; and

(c) whether in view of the new economic policy Manganese Mining would be allowed in the Private Sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir. The actual position is that Manganese Ore (India) Ltd. has been making profits during the period.

(b) There is no proposal to privatise Manganese Ore (India) Ltd.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Merger of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant with SAIL

2130. DR. YELMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) wheher Government have received any representations from the workers to merge Visakhapatnam Steel Plant into Steel Authority of India Limited;

(b) if so: what are the details thereof; and

(c) at what stage of consideration these proposals are ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) Visakha Steel Mazdoor Sangh has submitted a memorandum inter-alia demanding that Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP) should be merged in SAIL.

(c) There is no proposal to merge VSP with SAIL.

Modernisation of Steel Plants

2131. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of modernisation plans of different steel plants that are awaiting clearance of the Central Government till today along with their dates of submissions;

(b) the details of on-going modernisation programme undertaken by other steel plants together with the amount of payments made to each foreign/domestic companies in the past three years along with the details of resources mobilised in the past three years;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government could not avoid the delays because of certain irregularities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The following proposals of steel plants are awaiting clearance :—

(i) Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) : SAIL's proposal of April, 1992 based on alternative strategy of modernisation.

(ii) Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited (IISCO) : SAIL's proposal of August, 1990 (subsequently updated in September, 1991) based on a Cost Reduction Study of Dastur co.

(b) The Renovation and Technological Upgradation (Modernisation) programmes at Durgapur Steel Plant (DSP) and Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) of SAIL are currently under implementation. The details of payments to the contractors are indicated in Statement-I for DSP and Statement-II for RSP. [See below]

These modernisation programmes are being financed through internal resources, borrowings from Steel Development Fund (SDF) and external commercial borrowings. The details of borrowings for the last three years are as follows :

(Rs. in Crores)

Unit	Borrowing	
	External Commercial Borrowing	Steel Development Fund
Durgapur Steel Plant	530	307
Rourkela Steel Plant	139	220

(c) and (d) The following are the main reasons which have contributed to the delay in the implementation of the modernisation of Durgapur Steel Plant beyond the completion schedule of March, 1993 :

(i) Delay in structural and equipment supplies.

(ii) Increase in volume of work specially in respect of civil and structural jobs in the Blast Furnace and Sinter Plant packages.

(iii) Inadequate mobilisation of resources for site work.

(iv) Delays in equipment supplies for various packages.

The modernisation programme of RSP is approved for commissioning by December, 1995.

Statement I

Rajya Sabha USQ

Details of Party-wise Payments made in respect of DSP Modernisation during 1990–91 *to* 1992–93

(Rs./Crs.)

	Party	PMTS during 1990-91	PMTS during 1991–92	MPTS during* 1992-93
	1	2	3	4
Krupps	Germany	35.14	14.72	14.80
mexport	Russia	17.53	121.10	77.62

1		2	3	4
Dodsal	India	32.94	39.95	39.51
Hindustan Steel Constn. Ltd.	India	35.56	78 89	58.85
Birla Technical Services Ltd.	India	23.53	81 69	115.44
Mannesmandemag Sack GmbH	Germany	29.17	117.88	152 83
Rautarukki	Finland	6 37	17 46	8.72
Concast	Swiss	11.14	18.57	7.19
Larsen & Tubro	India	31.78	39.14	28.02
Simplekamp	Germany	3.88	22.21	20.15
Escon Limited	India	1.87	2.14	6.31
Hoestemberghe & Kleutsch	Germany	1.70	3.66	0 39
Hoestemberghe & Kleutsch	India	1.05	7.53	5.70
Otto (India) Limited	India	16 09	13.14	9 35
Engineering projects India Ltd.	India	9.57	17.53	8.87
Braithwaite	India	2.47	1.02	0.52
Heavy Engineering Corporation	India	4.33	9.50	14.16
Vulcan	India	4.58	5.26	5.03
Asea Brown Boveri & Crompton Greeves Limited	India	54.02	41 20	23.36
Metallurgical & Engg. Consultants (India) Limited	India	12.10	15.71	12.17
Others	India	4.57	7.25	6.35
		339.39	675.55	615.34

Note :-*Figures for 1992-93 provisional pe[illegible] of Accounts.

STATEMENT-II

Details of Party-wise Payments made in respect of RSP Modernisation during 1990-91 *to* 1992-93

(Rs./Crs.)

Party		PMTS During 1990-91	PMTS During 1991-92	PMTS During* 1992-93
1		2	3	4
Beekay Engg. Corpn.	India	0.00	0 54	2.62
Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.	India	0.00	0.00	3.91
Simplex Engg.	India	0.00	0.00	10.68
Mukand Limited	India	0.00	0.00	53.63
Delite Engg. Company	India	0.03	2.05	1.72
Siemens	India	3.27	4.90	17.60
Heavy Engg. Construction Ltd.	India	0 00	5.82	10.02
Hindustan Steel Constn. Ltd.	India	0.29	0.14	0.44
National Project Constn. Co.	India	0 27	0.12	1.50
Engineering Projects India Ltd.	India	14.51	40.16	41.36
Metallurgical & Engg. Consultants (India) Limited	India	8.32	14.58	59.42

1		2	3	4
Tiajpromexport	Russia	0.00	0.00	8.35
Tata Robin Frasers Limited	India	7.43	14.73	8.44
Bharat Heavy Plates & Vessels Limited	India	39.87	25.16	13.64
Elecon Engg.	India	1.49	8.08	3.94
Braihwaite and Company	India	0.00	3.35	3.85
M N Dastur & Company	India	0.10	29.11	12.04
ISJEC Johan Thompson	India	0.00	1.36	0.18
National Engg. Industries Ltd.	India	0.00	0.00	16.13
Indian Railways	India	0.00	0.00	5.68
Visvesviraya Iron & Steel Ltd.	India	0.00	0.00	2.22
Tata Electric & Locomotives Company Limited	India	0.00	2.09	0.56
Mannesmann Demag Sack GmbH	Germany	0.00	0.00	12.03
Siemens	Germany	0.00	0.00	8.67
Mannesmann Demag Aktiengesellschaft (Huettentechnik)	Germany	0.00	0.00	14.76
Sehldemann Siemag AG	Germany	0.00	0.00	5.51
GFA Analgenbau GmbH	Germany	0.00	0.00	1.20
Radex	Austria	0.00	1.04	1.35
Others	India	4.10	6.88	7.68
		79.68	160.11	328.53

*Note:—Figures for 1992-93 Provisional pending audit of accounts.

Closure of Mini Steel Units in Secondary Steel Sector

2132. SHRI P. UPENDRA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of mini units in secondary steel sector have been closed down recently following increase in the import duty on metal scrap;

(b) the names of the units which have already been closed down and which are on the verge of closure;

(c) whether the increase in import duty on scrap has been effected to favour spongs iron units owned by the kith and kin of some VVIP;

(d) whether any representations have been made to Government to revise its policy; and

(e) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (e) Government have not received reports of closure of a large number of mini steel plants (Electric Arc Furnace Units) recently following the increase in the import duty on steel melting scrap.

Mini Steel Plants had represented to Government against increase in import duty on steel melting scrap from 10 percent